

REMARKS

The application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated May 31, 2007. Claims 1-12, 16, and 18-20 are pending in this application, with claims 1, 16, and 18 being in independent form. By the present Amendment, claims 1, 16 and 18 have been amended. Claims 13, 14, 15 and 17 have been canceled hereby without prejudice or disclaimer. It is submitted that no new matter has been added and no new issues have been raised by the present Amendment.

Claims 1-13, 15, and 17-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,612,715 “(Karaki).”

The Office Action has indicated that claims 14 and 16 contain allowable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicants would like to thank Examiner Tucker for conducting a telephonic interview with Applicant's undersigned representative on July 17, 2007. During this interview, a proposed set of claims were discussed and Examiner Tucker indicated that the proposed set of claims would require further consideration to determine their allowability. In the interests of moving this case to allowance without further consideration, Applicants have decided to take the allowable subject matter at this time and reserve the right to pursue the proposed set of claims and/or other claims in a continuation application.

In the interest of furthering prosecution, the claim elements of allowable claim 14 (including claim 13) have been added into independent claims 1 and 18 and thus independent claims 1 and 18 along with dependent claims 2-12 and 19-20 are in condition for allowance.

Claims 13 and 14 have been canceled hereby because their limitations have all been added to independent claims 1 and 18.

In the interests of furthering prosecution, claim 16 has been amended to place it in independent form by adding into claim 16, the claim elements of claims 1 (prior to the amendments made herein), 2 and 15. Claim 16 is now in condition for allowance.

Claim 15 has been canceled hereby because its limitations have all been added to claim 16.

Accordingly, independent claims 1, 16, and 18 are believed to be in condition for allowance. Similarly, dependent claims 2-12 and 19-20 are believed to be in condition for allowance at least owing to their dependence upon independent claim 1.

If a telephone interview could advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned attorney.

Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated:

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by:


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